

1964



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CONFIDENTIAL

1081

File No. 1081

FO 277/269

Name of File—

CAY 891

NO MINUTES TO BE WRITTEN HERE

RECORD OF WEEDING		
	INITIALS	DATE
2 YEARS		
5 YEARS (CONSULAR POSTS ONLY)	<i>JRA</i>	<i>9/10/68</i>
10 YEARS		

CLOSED
UNTIL
2/20/81

LAST Year's File No. 1081/63

NEXT Year's File No. _____

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CONFIDENTIAL

(1081/64)

TELEGRAM

ROUTINE

Cypher/OTP ~~code~~ **XUCLIR**

From:— HAVANA

To:— FOREIGN OFFICE.

Despatched 12.00 31/12

Received

No. 556

of December 30, 1964.

CONFIDENTIAL
ROUTINE

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 556 of December 30, 1964. Repeated for information to Washington No. 157 and Governor Nassau Personal No. 34.

My immediately preceding telegram.

Cay Sal.

Since Ros had expressed appreciation of our preventing anti-Castro Cubans from using the Bahamas as a base for operations against this country, I pressed him hard about the Cay Sal prisoners. He apologised for the delay, and stated again categorically that a decision to allow these prisoners to go back to the Bahamas had been taken in principle by Castro himself. He said that the formalities necessary to translate this decision into practice took time. But he himself was visibly embarrassed, and agreed to speak to Castro again.

2. Meanwhile this Embassy is regularly visited by certain of the Cay Sal prisoners who have been released. They are becoming increasingly impatient. One of them has been told by the Ministry of the Interior that he may be needed at short notice.

3. Has the interest of H.M.G. been conveyed to Cuban Ambassador since U.K. election?

F.O. please pass.

WATSON.

LH

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

ANGUILA CAY

I was visited today by the mother of Ricardo Lopez Cabrera, one of the prisoners who remain in Las Cabanas. She had been to see him in mid-December and said that his health was not good. She asked what developments had occurred. I told her that H.E. had spoken to Roa and that, while it still might take some time, we were moderately confident that the prisoners would be sent back to the Bahamas.

ATB
.../i

Confidential

Minutes

ANGUILA CAY

I was visited again today by Sr. Salicou, who asked whether progress had been made. He repeated that he is fed up with waiting. He has bought a motor, and is ready to steal a boat and head off to the Bahamas during the night. He complained that, by being patient, he had already missed two good chances to escape. I told him that HE had not yet spoken to Roa, and asked him to be patient a while longer. We were hopeful, and precipitate action would only ruin things.

2. Sr. Salicou asked why we were not tougher with the Cubans. He said that the Spanish Embassy had complained vigorously to the Cubans and had some Spanish-Cubans released from Las Gabanas. I explained that the case was not analogous. The ex-refugees were Cuban nationals, and we had to make careful progress. This progress should soon bear results. Sr. Salicou left promising to wait a little longer.

N. Bright
28/iii

H. of S.

I sympathize..

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

I sympathize with his
impatience, but this man is a
fool - he was forcing the
chances of the others & walking
a tightrope and acting caught
again. But finally he was to
right to some extent; we certainly
could push the Indians more
steer and perhaps a little
harder.

R.Rashu
2/12

H.E.

I spoke to Rua on 30
December. (See Tel 556 157)

HW
57

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes

1081/64

Anguila Cay

originally 19 in
all; 5 still in
prison.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

I was visited this morning by a cousin of Osmany Nodares, one of the nineteen refugees, who still remains in prison (there are four others). According to my visitor the five prisoners were in serious danger of being executed in the near future. He claimed that their lawyers had advised him to come to us and warn us of this possibility. Nodares had been taken away from Las Cabañas Prison a few days ago and had apparently been sent to Santa Clara. The cousin feared that he would be tried in Santa Clara, found guilty, and executed within twenty-four hours before anyone could do anything about it. The charges against them are the old ones, namely that they were agents of the C.I.A. and that they were indulging in bringing arms to Cuba to fight the revolution.

2. This may be just another rumour, but when H.E. speaks to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs about Anguila Cay, it might be helpful to draw attention to the plight of the five remaining prisoners. I told Nodares' cousin to inform the Embassy immediately he learned that the prisoners were to be tried.

A.D. Brighty

(A. D. Brighty)
December 22, 1964

H. S. A.

I feel that this story of executions must be a rumour. After Castro's appearance to H.E.C. in the summer, I cannot believe that he will kill off any of the prisoners, whatever else he may do.

E. Rasher

22/12

H.E. I agree with the H.S.A. But I will mention the prisoners to Rasher

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Confidential

Minutes.

Anguila Gay

Sr. Salioup called again today. He had called at the appropriate office of MININT to ask about his personal documents and whether he should seek a passport or not, and had been told not to leave Havana over Christmas since he might be needed at short notice. Sr. Salioup regarded this as a sign that the ex-prisoners would soon be allowed to leave.

2. He also said that one of the prisoners, Rene Rodriguez Esqui, wanted to ask that he should remain in Cuba and that his brother should be allowed to leave in his place. His brother is apparently serving a 30 yr. sentence in the Isle of Pines. Sr. Salioup was afraid that this might mean a delay for the group as a whole. This matter

[Signature]

Minutes.

Had not yet been sent to the Cuban
authorities.

3. I promised to telephone Dr. Salinger
when HE had spoken with the MPA,
and asked him to keep me informed
of any developments known to him.

A.Bright
21/12

H. of Ch.

The affair seems to be
moving in the right direction -
but slowly. Perhaps we are to
get a Christmas amnesty?

O'Rashke
21/12

~~HE~~ Perhaps. I hoped so
last Christmas! m
22/12

A.B.
22/12

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

ANGUILA CAY

Señora Josafina Nodarse called today to say:-

- (i) when they visited the prison on December 14, they heard from the prisoners that they were to be sent out of the country by the end of the month.
- (ii) A few days ago she received a telegram saying that the prisoners had been transferred to the Santa Clara prison.

I said what we had no further news.

Sarah Hughes-Lewis
(S. Hughes-Lewis) (Miss)
December 18, 1964.

H.O.G.

2 separate visits.

EEA
... 24/12

H.E.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes.

Anguilla Cay

Señor Salicrup called on me to-day to ask whether there had been any developments. I told him that we were still waiting for news, but were moderately optimistic. He said that he was getting increasingly impatient and unless the Cuban authorities soon gave their agreement to the ex-prisoners leaving, he seriously intended to make his escape (again) on his own. All his family are at present in the United States. I asked him to be patient and repeated Mr. Maud's earlier warning that such action might prejudice the position of the others.

and he did not wish his
departure to be delayed
by formalities once permission
was given.

2. Señor Salicrup also asked whether he ought now to apply for a passport since this process took around three weeks. He said that the other prisoners were in the same position as regards passports. I told him that I thought we would receive sufficient notice of [redacted] for him to be able to apply for and be granted a passport. It might however be worth checking on this point with the Cubans when we next speak to them officially on this subject.

A.D. Brighty

(A.D. Brighty)
December 14, 1964.

H.B.

N.L.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

1081 /64

Minutes.

ANGUILLA CAY

Sefiora Maria Antonia Rodriguez called on me on November 24 to tell me that the member of the Cuban Security authorities who has been responsible for keeping an eye on her since she came out of prison on December 28, 1963, told her ~~definitely~~ when he last called to check on her whereabouts, that he understood that the case was to be resolved finally in December. She asked whether this would apply to those who are still in prison and he told her that it would.

2. It therefore sounds as if the Cubans at least mean business, ~~whixximxMinistry~~ ~~sixflexible~~ particularly as it has been our impression that while the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was prepared to be helpful, the Security forces were balking. In any case, we shall find out if there is anything in this shortly.

HJM

(H. J. H. Maud)
November 24, 1964

15
Mr. Hitch

H. of S. This sounds hopeful.

R. Maud
" 25/11

H. G. (cc.) C. M.

MW 4/12

CONFIDENTIAL

Confidential
Minutes.Letter to *
C.S.A.Angela Gay

S. SALICROP came in this year again on Nov 17, in effect to ask whether I thought our negotiations would bear fruit, or if he should try to get out of the country on his own (again!). Naturally I told him his former was the case, and that any illegal action on his part, even if successful, was prejudice everyone else's position. He agreed to be patient.

2. His present address is CORINTA #264, c/ Milagros y Pta. Catalina. His neighbour's telephone is ~~4353~~ 4353.

PH phone

17/11

H of C

RCA 23/11

11/1/64

CONFIDENTIAL

BOSTON SUBDIVISION,
N.Y.C.

November 10, 1964

I enclose a letter to you of October 28 about the
Soviet prisoner. At the end of my conversation
with him this morning (continued in my telegram No. 45
leaving) I asked him about those miscreants. Just before
we left he gave me the following information which I have
been interested in because of the question which would be
arisen in the near future in a planned anti-Soviet to
the U.S. Government. He said he was going to D.I.C. But the
information has not yet been settled.

1. He said that he had written to his mother that it
was possible that he would be released if she had
sufficient funds to pay off his bond. The letter would be
settled favourably, in accordance with his criminal
experience. But it would take some time. He
said it now that he could do no better than that I had
better not depend on my return. He said for me to
be told where that this was not a letter which he had
the right to say. It will be in the list of his
written works.

2. I have sent copies of this letter to the Ambassador
of Germany and the Governor of the Province.

(C.R. - R.G.W.)

R.D.L. Flater, Esq., C.I.A.,
Foreign Office,
Long A, N.Y.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BRITISH EMBASSY
HAVANA

October 28 1964

(1081/64)

Would you please have another look at my letter (1081/64) of September 17 to you about the Cay Anguilla prisoners?

2. I am afraid that the Cubans' discomfort over their air service to Nassau interrupted my lobbying on this matter; the atmosphere after that was not very propitious for pressing for an act of grace and favour. Nor am I sure that the atmosphere even now is right. In the last few days I have raised the matter again with the chosen go-betweens, the Director and the Deputy Director of Protocol, mentioning particularly that I have still had no answer to my letter of September 17 to the former (a copy of which was enclosed with my letter of the same date to you). But I got no change, merely inquiries about the Labour Government's interest in the matter and the date of the Ambassador's return.

3. So it seems to me that the Cuban Government have either found this too intractable a problem to solve despite their reassuring message to the Ambassador just before he left on leave and are hoping that the Labour Government will not press it in the way that their predecessors did; or else are saving up some magnanimous gesture for the Ambassador's return. My own guess, I am afraid, is the former; but if I am wrong, we should know fairly soon, as the Ambassador gets back here next week.

4. I am sending copies of this letter to Iain Sutherland at Washington and to the Governor of the Bahamas at Nassau.

(D. R. Ashe)

R. M. E. Slater Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1081/04

BRITISH EMBASSY,
Havana.

CONFIDENTIAL

September 17, 1964

/Savvy

Would you please have a look at the Ambassador's telegram No. 42 of August 28 about the Gay Anguilla prisoners? After giving the Cubans a few days' grace I renewed our pressure over this issue, reminding the Deputy Director of Protocol on September 9 and the Director of Protocol on September 11 that Her Majesty's Government were now waiting to know the details of the "favourable solution" which the Cuban Government had in mind. They both seemed surprised that Dr. Castro's reassurance had not filled the breach for longer, but the Director of Protocol in particular made a note in his little book and promised to speak to the Prime Minister at the first opportunity.

2. By chance I myself then had an opportunity to jog Castro's memory when I was pushed up to talk to him at the Mexican Ambassador's reception on September 16. I told him that, grateful as they had been for his personal message of reassurance, Her Majesty's Government were now wondering exactly what kind of solution he intended to propose. He cheered off the subject quickly, possibly because we had a mass of other people pressing all around us. But at least he now knows that his rather vague assurance cannot hold the position much longer and that we are pressing to get down to the hard details of a solution. And to make sure that the wheels keep turning, I have today written to the Director of Protocol; a copy of my letter is attached.

3. I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosure to Iain Sutherland at Washington and the Governor of the Bahamas at Nassau.

(D.R. Ashe)

R.M.K. Slater, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

1081/64

September 17, 1964

You will remember that I mentioned to you at the Ceylonese Ambassador's dinner party on September 11 that, grateful though my Government were for your Prime Minister's personal assurance conveyed to them through my Ambassador that a favourable solution would shortly be found to the problem of the Cay Anguilla prisoners, they were now awaiting details of the solution proposed. I referred to this matter obliquely during my short conversation with the Prime Minister at the Mexican Ambassador's reception last night, but had the impression that he did not fully understand what I meant. I did not want to be more specific on such a public occasion and did not therefore pursue the matter. But may I take this opportunity of reminding you that my Ambassador is now in London engaged in consultations with my Government and that he will be expected to give some account of the solution which your Government have in mind? And may I also therefore count on your co-operation in bringing this matter to the attention of the Prime Minister with a view to reaching a final solution soon?

(D.R. Ashe)

Exemo. Señor Roberto Melendez Diaz,
Director of Protocol,
Havana.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

Angustia City

The name on a friend of

HERNANDEZ FERNANDEZ HERNANDEZ

Called today to his wife
from the west coast and has
been working in San Francisco
He has a wife and currently
has one son a wife the son
from No 1 at San Fran

H. M. M.
18 Sept

H. M. R.
Mr. H. M. R.

I told the Deputy Director of
Protocol, Simeon Perez Hernandez, at
the Bulgarian reception on September
9 and the Director of Protocol,
Simeon Hernandez Diaz, at the
Cuban Ambassador's dinner on
1 September

Minutes.

September 11 that we expected
an early decision about this
and that Doctor Castro's
representing ~~backstage~~ to H.N.G.
whether the Ambassador was
just about time-expired. They
said I arrived at the short
time of the message, but since
Nunes asked me what my
deadline was; I chose the
date of the expiration of
fallow-out for want of another
better and said I thought that
this would take place on
September 15. Actually it has
been fixed for September 25,
so I suppose the Celans may
consider that they have time to
go on. But since Nunes made
a note in his letter to R.R. and
promised to the Doctor Castro.

2. Please draw the point when you
get the chance - I will too.

R.P.A. 1574

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Mr. Head
Mr. H. G. D. /
R.P.A. 1574

1081

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SAVING~~ ~~TELEGRAM~~

Cypher code en clair

From:-

HAVANA

To:-

FOREIGN OFFICE

Despatched

Received

No. 42

of

August 28, 1964

Addressed to Foreign Office No. 42 SAVING, repeated to
Washington No. 42 SAVING and Governor of the Bahamas
(personal) SAVING No. 10.

Rennie's letter of August 7.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I have pressed this issue at all levels. Finally at
Roa's suggestion I sent him a memorandum restating U.S.A.'s
demands and asking him to get Castro to give me a
favourable decision to take home leave.

2. A few hours before my departure I received a message
from Castro asking me to give my Government his personal
assurance that the issue of those prisoners would be
solved in the near future in a manner satisfactory to
U.S.A., and that he was now studying ways and means.

3. My impression is that this is intended to be a
decisive commitment to allow those who wish to leave to
do so, but our request has created real difficulties for
the régime. I have asked Roa to maintain the pressure
until we get out those who wish to leave.

4. You will remember that we told the Cubans we would try
to keep publicity to a minimum. When we learn Castro's
"ways and means" we should no doubt inform the U.S. State
Department of the position, for their own information, and
remind them of the detailed arrangements described in your
telegram No. 250 of February 14 to Washington and
connected telegrams. I presume these arrangements still
stand?

Agosto 19, 1964

Durante la entrevista que tan amablemente hubo usted de concederme en la mañana de hoy, acordamos que sería conveniente que le expusiese por escrito nuestro deseo de dar una solución al incidente ocurrido en Cayo Anguila el dia 13 de Agosto del pasado año. Con sumo gusto acompaña a la presentes un Aide Memoire en este sentido.

Recordará usted que fué precisamente a los pocos días de hacer asumido mi cargo como Embajador Británico en Cuba que tuve oportunidad de presentar el caso a su consideración, habiendo ya transcurrido un año desde la fecha en que ocurrió el incidente y casi un año desde que comenzamos a tratar sobre el mismo.

Como usted sabe, el dia 27 de los corrientes entrare hacia el Reino Unido y tendré que hacer un recuento a mi Gobierno de las actuales relaciones Anglo-Cubanas. El caso en cuestión es posiblemente el más de más seriedad pendiente entre nuestros dos países y tengo la seguridad que a través de su Embajador en Londres sabrá usted la importancia que da al mismo el Gobierno de la Isla. A la vez, represento la única reclamación de carácter grave que he tenido el haber hacerle durante este año. Confío, por lo tanto, que hará usted todo lo que esté a su alcance por consultar el caso con el Primer Ministro, para estar familiarizado con todos los pormenores, de manera que cuando regrese al Reino Unido la semana próxima pueda ser portador de una decisión favorable.

J. A. Watson

Su Excelencia, Dr. Raúl Roa García,
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores,
La Habana.

AIDE MEMOIRE
INCIDENTE DE CAYO ANGUILA

Más de un año ha transcurrido desde el dia 13 de Agosto de 1963 cuando tuvo lugar una incursión dentro de territorio británico en las Islas Bahamas por fuerzas armadas del Gobierno de Cuba. Las circunstancias de este incidente, como resultado del cual 19 ciudadanos cubanos fueron traidos a Cuba, se detallan en la Nota de esta Embajada No. 160 del 21 de Agosto de 1963 al Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores. El ministerio dió respuesta a la Nota de la Embajada en su Nota No. 1095 del 10 de Septiembre. El dia 4 de Octubre, esta Embajada solicitó nuevamente al Gobierno de Cuba la devolución a territorio británico de los 19 prisioneros en cuestión. Durante el mes de Noviembre de 1963, 14 de dichos prisioneros fueron puestos en libertad, aunque la Embajada fué informada sobre el particular con bastante demora, y a juicio por las distintas solicitudes formuladas a la Embajada por familiares de algunos de los prisioneros, 5 de ellos aún continúan en prisión.

La solicitud del Gobierno Británico la sido rejetida en diferentes ocasiones por el Jefe de esta misión diplomática durante conversaciones con el ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y con el propio Primer Ministro. El Embajador de Cuba en Londres indudablemente debe haber comunicado a su Gobierno la importancia que dà al caso al Gobierno de Su Majestad Británica. Sin embargo, el asunto continúa pendiente de solución.

Es política del Gobierno de Su Majestad Británica el impedir la entrada ilegal a su territorio y aguas territoriales. En este sentido, el Gobierno de Su Majestad ha reforzado sus fuerzas armadas a las órdenes del Gobernador de las Bahamas con el fin de detectar la entrada ilegal desde cualquier lugar. Se recordará que, como resultado de estas medidas, las actividades ilegales de Manolo Ray, entre otros, fueron impeditidas, y esta Embajada ha tenido oportunidad de prevenir al Gobierno de Cuba sobre posibles actividades hostiles que se estaban planeando en el área de las Islas Bahamas.

El Gobierno de Su Majestad Británica solicita encarecidamente del Gobierno de Cuba se conceda a los 19 ciudadanos cubanos interesados, tanto a los que continúan en prisión como a aquellos que han sido libertados, una oportunidad inmediata para abandonar el país, si es este su deseo. El Gobierno de Su Majestad no tiene interés en dar publicidad a cualquier arreglo que pudiese hacerse con el fin de que estas personas se dirijan a las Bahamas; muy por el contrario, confia que el asunto pueda tratarse con la mayor discreción posible.

La Habana, Agosto 19, 1964.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

I suggest either a general or specific resolution to be introduced in the House of Commons. I do not know if it would be better to have a resolution in the name of the Minister of Environment, or if it would be better to have a resolution in the name of the Minister of Natural Resources. I am not sure which would be better.

I will let you know the results of my research.

A.D.

(Signature)
Date 12/1/91

1. H.O.C. *see note*
2. ~~xx~~ G.A. *see note*
3. ~~xx~~ D.M.N.

See new H.R.L. letter and addendum to Minister of F.A. of today's date

1) May
12/91

Regr: pl. attach/PPS

H.R.L.

EEA
... 20/8

CONFIDENTIAL

1081

1016/21)



FOREIGN OFFICE, C.M.I.

August 7, 1964.

Dear Adam,

We do not seem to be making progress on the Anguilla Gay prisoners. It is almost a year now since they were taken by the Cubans and all we have so far is the setting at liberty of some of them in Havana and a series of statements by Cuban officials that it will be a cold thing if the matter were settled.

2. I note from your letter 1081/64 of May 29 that you said that Castro was handling it himself. Presumably you expect still to raise it with him during our forthcoming talks. At the moment, I should be grateful for your views on what we can do to get things moving. I spoke to the Cuban Ambassador again a few days ago and whether he had seen any more and he said he had not, but that he was quite sure that there would be a meeting between the Cuban Prime Minister and Mr. Gay to handle directly with you.

Yours ever

Link

(J.O. Raine)

J.H.A. Watson, D.S.Q., C.M.G.,
British Embassy,
Havana.

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes.

ANGUILA CAY

SENORA MARIA ANTONIA RODRIGUEZ CASTILLA, wife of Israel Rojas Delgada, who gives her present address as Calle 15, no. 503, apartment 2, Vedado, between E and D (telephone 32-57-44) called on August 14 to see if we had any further news. She has often called before and I gave her the usual answer.

2. I do not know if there has been any sign of the promised answer from the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

HJH Maud

(H.J.H. Maud)
August 17, 1964

H. of C.

Mr. Hitch

Nothing from the Ministry yet.
The Ambassador is passing
the message briefly about it at
this moment.

LLA
... 19/4

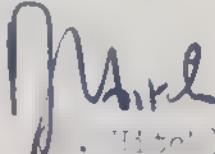
CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes

CAB. C.R. - TEL. MRS.

1. Dr. Alfredo Palenzona, left on August 14 to say that it was the anniversary of the incident at La Villa Day and to press for action. He had a quite heated, but I tried to tell him that the matter was still under confidential discussion with the Cuban Government, and that there was no point in his continuing to come to the Embassy when I had on several occasions promised to get in touch with him as soon as there were any developments.

2. This visit underlines the obvious point: that we will continue to be under pressure from the relatives of the men still in jail, whatever success the Cubans have in their negotiations. A reminder to the Cuban Government to remember to keep its options open or they may never manage to leave the country.


John F. Kennedy
August 17, 1964

H.A.C.
H.A.C.

I think that the time really has come for us to press the Cubans on this subject. They are simply leading us along, presumably in the belief that our representations are only for the record and that we do not really care what happens to these people. Maybe they are right, of course. But in that case we ought to act the position straight in our own

/minds...

Minutes

meets at least logically
this means that in the
end we shall finally drop
the case.

Chairman
" 17/4

H.F.
Now see the Ambassador's
memo of August 18 and his
letter of August 19 to the
Minister of Foreign Affairs.

LLA
" 20/4

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Minutes

Sr. Narciso SALICRUP

[This is the correct name of
the man originally named in
earlier minutes].

He came on July 31 to find
out if there were further
developments. I was careful to
say that discussions were
continuing but that I had
nothing definite to add to
our earlier comments.

2. If of c. informed

Thru
31 July

X

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Minutes

CAYO ANGUILLA

Señor Sal y Cruz called on July 14 with the following story.

2. Yesterday, July 13, he was released after eight days in prison. He had been arrested on Santa María beach by a Security Officer who recognised him from his earlier time in prison in connexion with Cayo Anguilla. No explanation was given then or at any time for his arrest which was explained simply as "on suspicion". He was kept for eight days in the prison of Villa Márta.

3. Señor Sal y Cruz was very shaken by this incident and told me that he has been in an acutely nervous state and unable to sleep since he was released from prison. One of the things which affected him most was the fact that none of his friends, nor of course anyone in this Embassy, had any idea about his arrest. The incident could therefore be repeated at any time, though, since his recent release may have done something to this Embassy's interest in him and his case, another arrest may be less likely than he thinks. If he is arrested again he will send members of his family to tell us.

4. I think this is quite important. One knows that arbitrary arrest is a familiar occurrence in contemporary Cuba; the circumstances of this incident show that the Cayo Anguilla ex-prisoners are particularly liable to it, having been the subjects of considerable publicity and from the length of time they spent in prison. Since we have made clear our official interest in these men to the Cuban Government I do not see how we could avoid getting involved if we came to know about any repetition of this incident. I think it would be worth making this point to the Cuban Government when we next discuss Cayo Anguilla prisoners, perhaps by saying to the Ministry that though we realise they have no control or influence over the internal security forces in Cuba the recurrence of such incidents would certainly cause unpleasantness between us and the Ministry and would further aggravate the solution of this long outstanding problem: there is therefore everything to be said for clearing it up quickly.

H.J.H.
(H.J.H. Maud)
July 14, 1964

H. of C.

H.E.

Rasme 147

/ Castro

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes

Castro made it clear to me at the Queen's Birthday Party that he did not want to speak about this subject in front of other people, but that he was aware of H.M.G.'s continuing interest.

2. When he took me out on July 14 he did not raise this subject. As he had a number of other significant things to say, I did not interrupt him to raise it.

3. I had taken the opportunity to speak to the Deputy Minister, Senor Rodriguez Camps, before dinner at my house on July 8. I spoke to Senor Rodriguez again on July 17, explaining that I had not wished to interrupt the Prime Minister, but that the subject remained unresolved and one of continuing concern to H.M.G. Senor Rodriguez said that this matter was being actively studied, and he really did expect that an answer would be given us at any time. I reminded the Deputy Minister that we had now been waiting for some months.

h.s

(J.H.A. Watson)
July 20, 1964

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

I also mentioned it to Senor Montenegro a few days ago; this also produced an assurance that a reply was imminent. And I believe Mr. Hitch got the same or fair words from him shortly before that.

*llm
... 2/1*

*Mr. Hitch
F.M. N.Y.
V.K.W.*
did not the man
see me about
the op., or am I
not here. There is no note
*18/8/64
2/17*

See

CONFIDENTIAL

Confidential
Minutes.

See now my minutes of March 10
and Feb 6. I really believe this
is the same man despite orthographical
variants (SA & CRUZO, SAL & CRUZ).
If so, he was not prison on Feb 6
& had been arrested
then, as he says the day before;
not in his story of 8 days inside
is an exaggeration.
2. While he goes around
talking about getting out of Cuba
so easily, it is not surprising that
he would be arrested where he goes
over a beach. But that in no way
detracts from Mr. Hand's point, which
I agree with the one exception that
it might not be truthful to tell the

(M.F.P)

Minutes.

HFA they have no influence over the
debt, authorities.

2. I did not have precisely the
conversation & Dr. H. tells you what
HFA affects does but I have
several times mentioned the subject with
HFA & could not find a case with HFA
influence.

1/18/17

207

In 1897

1898 again

Yes influence was wrong;
responsibility for the acts of we
be better but the law is
wrong in May

14 March

22/17.

Yes, but in the meantime let
us see what the promised reply
amounts to. It would settle the
matter over & for all. EEA 2217

Am 23/17
T. W. W.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes

Cay Sal Prisoners*floyd*

Please see my minute of March 10 about Mr. Narciso Sale Cruzo. He called again this morning to ask whether there was any possibility of our getting him out of Cuba. He was still in difficulties about employment, and wished to join his family in Miami. Preparations for a trial seem to be continuing, Security Agents had visited his house recently and tried to have him sign a statement to be used as one of the documents in the trial. He had refused.

2. He told me in confidence that if it did not look as if we could get him out by the end of the year, he intended to have another go illegally. I told him that this had nothing to do with us, but if he were discovered by the Cuban authorities making such plans, he must be quite sure that this Embassy could not help him in any way to escape the consequences.

3. Without revealing any details, I told Mr. Cruzo that there was still hope. (If ever we get to the stage of abandoning hope, I feel we ought to let such people know: but I can imagine the situation where demands merely fizzle out without our being able to say we have dropped them.)

D. Hitch
(D. Hitch)
July 6, 1964.

Hage eea 7/1.

HG.

*XVJB
8/7*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes.

Cay Sal Prisons

According to the file, there have been no developments since my report to the Head of the West European Department ~~in May~~ in May. So a further word will be necessary. Unless this means having action too late, your dinner party on July 4 will be the best opportunity.

Orbison

" 21

(HE) I took the opportunity of a private luncheon with Dr Rodriguez Camps to raise the question again with him. I will speak again on 8 July.

Ar 2/7

LLA

3-27

Mr. Hickman
T.R. Maury
P.W. on 5-27.

CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE
(1081/64)

TELEGRAM

Cypher ~~202ex2xzx2xzx2x~~

From:— FOREIGN OFFICE *To:*— HAVANA

Despatched

Received

No. 390

of July 1, 1964

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Havana, telegram No. 390 of July 1,
repeated Saving to Washington.

Your letter 1081/64 of May 29 to Rennie.

Have you yet received a reply? If not, please
remind the Foreign Minister of our continuing
interest in having this problem resolved.

SOSFA

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Confidential
Minutes.

Int. 4.
3
X

Can see prisoners

1081

Sra Maria Antonia Rodriguez came on June 5 (wife of Diazgo) to find out if there were any developments. I told her that discussions were continuing, and asked her to come back only if she heard of any definite developments.

2. Her only news was that her husband had been moved to another part of La Cotorra prison, the place which several men had been taken out and executed. She feared this was his case, as it was a bad sign, and she may well be right.

10th June
8 AM

Mr. White 108/6

Hans G. White

BRITISH EMBASSY,
HAVANA.

1021/64

May 19, 1964

RESTRICTED

Thank you for your telegram No. 331 about the
Cayo Sulu prisoners.

2. I mentioned this to Roa on May 12, at the end
of the conversation reported in my letter 10218 of
May 12. He said that this matter had been raised by
the Prime Minister and that it was very desirable
to get it settled.

3. On receipt of your telegram I spoke to the
Head of the West Euro.ian Department of the Ministry
of Foreign Affairs. He said that the Cuban Ambassador
had recently told him that you had raised the
subject with him again on May 2nd. But they had not
had the follow-up letter. He hoped to give me some
answer in the near future.

(J.W.C. Watson)

J.O. Rennie, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL

(1081/64)

TELEGRAM

ROUTINE

Cypher : ~~00dxxxxxx@xx@xx@xx~~

From:— FOREIGN OFFICE

To:— HAVANA

Despatched 02.15 GMT

Received 08.30 local

No. 331

of

May 28, 1964

Addressed to Havana, telegram No. 331 of May 28,
repeated saving to Washington.

My telegram No. 261.

Kennie asked the Cuban Ambassador on May 25 whether he had yet received a reply about Anguilla Cay. The Ambassador said that he had not, although he had recommended the tidying up of this matter at the earliest opportunity.

2. Provided you see no objection, please follow this up with a reminder to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SOSFA

CONFIDENTIAL (2845) Wt.23568/D164 50m 9/62 G.W.B.Ltd. Gp.86
(2846) Wt.40036/D34 50m 4/63 G.W.B.Ltd. Gp.86

CONFIDENTIAL

(11/1/4)

TELEGRAM.

PRIORITY

Cypher ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

From :— FOREIGN OFFICE

To :— U.S.A.

Despatched

Received

No. 661

of

April 1, 1946

Subject: U.S. Supreme Court, 201 of
and 202, Appeal by Government.

Urgent. 10 1/2 x 10 1/2 inches.

Information will have to be collated on
and 101 of the above to his and entire list this
will be established and it will be forwarded
by the end of the week or early next week.
I would like to call Mr. Hart at 10 o'clock to
discuss this and point out that he quickly
bring Mr. Daniels' attention. It is believed the
Court will take no action before the 20th unless we
have news from Germany or the United States' Commission
there.

Yours,

Restricted

1081

Minutes

AT 5000 FT. (FEB 11 Y 1961)

3

A group of some six relatives of
the following prisoner called on me
recently:

Antonio Vincenzo Lino
Dominic Martinez Garlente
Antonio Norberto LaPouer
John or Louis LaPouer
and Gianni.

Their case is similar to the Vincenzo
case that which I am sure is correct or
about a month ago. The organization for
the relatives of犯人 (犯人) here
five men who were still in prison
in addition within the walls of
the light house on 3rd and 1st they
are arrested on or around January 11.
Further discussion made it reasonably
clear that they are according to
the incident to be held in place
beginning early 21st of Jan, 1961.
For this reason I will never think
that the arrest was justified
as the evidence is not clear.
In addition, the trial date
was not held, the correct
date of the trial was not
given and all other information.

It is my opinion that the
arrest was illegal and that
the trial date was not given
as the trial date was not
given and all other information
was not given.

Burke

TK Auz 23/4
HMC

Mr. Black Am
23/4

Enter and

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes

CAY SAL PRISONERS

Further to my minute (flagged) of March 14 about Mr. Osmani Nodarse Gonzales.

2. Mr. Alfredo Nodarse called today together with the prisoner's father, who I had not met before. The father told me that when he called at Cabahias Prison on April 1, his son was not there. The regular monthly visiting day came up yesterday, when the authorities told him that his son had been transferred to the G.2 headquarters at Matanzas, and that he could visit him there. This he did, and had come immediately to this Embassy in accordance with our mutual understanding that each side would report any developments to the other. The father expressed the usual fear in these cases that the G.2. interest in the case was an ominous sign and that their son might be shot. He had no news of a new trial.

3. I had to tell him that there were no new developments on our side, though we were keeping the case under consideration etc.

4. We must hope that the next bag (of April 23) will bring us a reply to Y.E.'s letter to Mr. Slater of March 26. I doubt whether any useful purpose will be served by telegraphing this latest development.

H. Hitch
(H. Hitch)
April 17, 1964

H.E. has seen

H.M.C. agree with para 4,

Mr. Ward

Mr 21/4

ates.

Mr 187

I have hence had (today) a second visit from the wife of Ricardo Lopez Alvarez.

*H. Hitch
28/4*

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

CONFIDENTIAL

BRITISH EMBASSY,
HAVANA.

1081/64

April 15, 1964.

Thank you for your letter 1081/64 of March 25 to Paul Scott requesting information about three of the Cubans abducted from Anguilla Cay.

2. As you will see from para. para-h 2 of our Savings telegram No. 1 of January 16, all three of these Cubans are at liberty and we are therefore able to invite them to call at the Embassy and supply us with this information (unless the Cuban Government's efforts at rehabilitation have been successful and they no longer wish to leave).

3. However, there is still much doubt now this whole problem is to be resolved, and we consider it would be dangerous to raise false hopes. We therefore propose to do nothing until we have had a reply to the Ambassador's letter to Minister of March 26 (not to the Governor of the Bahamas).

4. In reply to your paragraph 3, the Ambassador's letter may be taken as the only new development since Foreign Office telegram No. 146 of March 4. The relatives of the five Cubans still in prison call fairly frequently at the Embassy, despite our attempts to persuade them to come only when there is a new development to report. In spite of rumours to the contrary, the trial of these men still seems to be suspended, though some of them seem to be taken at intervals from Cabanas prison to the G.2 headquarters for interrogation.

5. I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

(B. Hitch)

I.J.M. Sutherland Esq.,
WASHINGTON.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Minutes*CAY SAL PRISONERS: TWO LETTERS

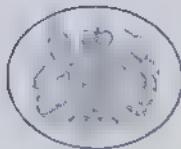
Until it is more certain that we still stand a chance of getting these prisoners out of Cuba, I am reluctant to invite the three persons named in Mr. Sutherland's letter of March 25 to the Embassy, as this would raise false hopes. They are, incidentally, all among the 11 adults released on Christmas Eve. Draft to Mr. Sutherland herewith.

2. Incidentally, paragraph 3 of Mr. Sutherland's letter of April 6 contains the rather remarkable statement "We confirm that the demand by H.M.G. for their return (of the prisoners) contained in your original note is still outstanding and that representations have been renewed since". I am unable to understand this, but I do not think it is worth making a fuss.

Hitch
(B) Hitch
April 14, 1964

Hitch
Hitch
Sutherland } a.a.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN



1081

CONFIDENTIAL

X AM. AG
(10/1/44)

ATLANTIC CITY,
NEW JERSEY, U.S.

APRIL 6, 1944.

BPA Letter
App. No. 144
J.W.
14/4

Dear Brian.

Re your letter 1071/1 of March 3, we
are sorry to say the General Assembly failed to act
on the proposed bill.

1. I would like to assure you that the bill did not fail
because the friends of the bill did not work hard enough.
I would like to assure you that even though the
bill did not pass it was due to lack of support from
the public and not from lack of effort.

2. Your last query continues to receive periodic answers
but the people who were in fact selected for the job,
including myself, some time since Aspinwall has been
interrogated. We confirm that the Assembly
for their services in your original bill is
still outstanding. That representation has been
made to us, however, several times to void inviting
the representatives to the meeting (an early
form of protest by those concerned). In view of
the date of the letter 1071/6 of April 16, we believe
that they will continue to do this.

3. Your query concerning the bill referred to in
your letter 1071/1 is referred to

Yours sincerely,

John.

(I.J.A. - Authorised)

John, A.M.,
A.J.A.

CONFIDENTIAL

1081



{
etc

CONFIDENTIAL

BY AIR MAIL

(1-21/64.)

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 25, 1964.

Dear Paul,

The Office of the Co-ordinator for Cuban Affairs at the State Department has now informed me that the U.S. immigration authorities have completed a security check of the names of the Cubans abducted from Anguilla Cay which were listed in Havana telegram No. 1349 of January 10. They have cleared all but three of those listed. The three individuals about whom they require further information are:-

Rene Rodriguez Esquia
Jose Augusto Hernandez Arena
Maria Antonia Rodriguez Castillo

They would like to know in each of these cases:-

- (a) date and place of birth
- (b) places of residence in Cuba during the past 5 years
- (c) details of any travel outside Cuba

The immigration authorities state that they have no advance information against these three people, but merely require additional information in order to establish positive identification. "Rodriguez" and "Hernandez" are very common names. If and when the Cuban authorities agree to let the prisoners go (or earlier if it is possible) could you please let us have this information so that the process of issuing visas in Nassau may be accelerated?

2. As regards the others, the U.S. authorities cannot give an absolute guarantee that visas will be issued. There is still the chance that they might be rejected on grounds of

health/

P.H. Scott, Esq.,
British Embassy,
HAVANA.

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

health (cf paragraph 1 of Washington telegram No. 627 of February 13). But there will be no objections on security grounds. The U.S. Consul General in Nassau has been informed.

3. The State Department also enquired what the present prospects are for getting the prisoners out. Have there been any developments since Foreign Office telegram No. 146 of March 4 to you?

4. I am copying this letter to Michael Brown in American Department and (on a personal basis) to the Governor of the Bahamas.

Yours ever,

Jim.

(I.J.H. Sutherland)

CONFIDENTIAL

1081/64

BRITISH EMBASSY,

Havana.

March 26, 1964

I am afraid that we have run into difficulties at this end about getting the Cay Sal prisoners out of Cuba.

Acting on the authority in your telegram No. 146 I have spoken to both the Head of the Western European Department and a member of the (here very influential) Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Both have told me that getting these people out of Cuba presented a difficult problem. The Prime Minister had promised me that all or most of these people would be let out of gaol but he did not really promise that they could leave Cuba. In any case there were difficulties about letting them out on the charter service, which would mean they jumped the long queue of people who had been waiting for months to leave Cuba by more regular means. Moreover, were we really still much interested in this question? I explained that the Prime Minister clearly understood my point that we wanted all these people to go back to the Bahamas. I understood him to say that he hoped to arrange this. These people were in no way to be compared to Cuban citizens who wished to emigrate. They had been taken from the Bahamas by the armed forces of the Cuban Government and should be allowed to return. In order to avoid any misunderstanding of this issue I was quite willing to have these people, or such of them as wished to go, turned over formally to me; and I would then make arrangements to return them to the Bahamas under the charge of the Embassy. Though I have received expressions of goodwill and a desire to help, the matter remains stuck.

If I may suggest it, I think the best course now is for you or some other highly placed official, to have the Cuban Ambassador round and explain to him the interest of Ministers in this matter, and our belief that it is a relic of the past which will nevertheless weigh heavily on Anglo-Cuban relations until it is cleared up. A push from your end might help to get things moving again. If a junior Minister were prepared to speak in this way, the effect would be correspondingly greater. It is not for me to assess just how much importance attaches to this problem.

R. M. K. Slater, Esq., CMG.,
Foreign Office,
London, SW1.

/It will..

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL

2

It will have occurred to you that one major factor making for difficulty in this matter is the failure so far of the Cubans to obtain any significant response to their approach to Snell.

I have sent a copy of this letter to Sutherland in Washington.

(J.L.A.Watson)

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes

1081/82

CAY SAL PRISONERS

The wife and mother of Ricardo López Cabrera called this morning to inform me that he had been transferred from Cabañas prison to the G.2 headquarters in Vibora, where he was incommunicado. The relatives regard this as

(a) a possible prelude to the death sentence, and, or
(b) an attempt to separate this case from that of the other four Cay Sal people still in prison on the grounds that he was the only one whose offence was leaving Cuba illegally.

2. This development might be a good lead in to Y.E.'s request for FO action.

J. Hitch
(J. Hitch)
March 25, 1964.

Hitch

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Letter to Dr. Sheller: be without a

lead in. *new*
26/3

With H.E.'s letter please

Upcoming
31/3

Very

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes

Cay Sal Prisoners

1081/64

Further to H.M.Consul's minute of November 13 1963 on 1081/63 (flagged) Mr. Alfredo Miguel Nodarse Gloria 471 (Bajos) tel. 54653, and Mrs. Josefina Nodarse 8va , 12 (Reparto Casino Deportivo tel. 404408, called on Mr. Maud and myself yesterday. They are brother and sister, and Mr. Osmani Nodarse Gonzalez, one of the Cay Sal prisoners still detained in Cabana prison, is their nephew. Mr. Nodarse's mother and father live in Sagua la Grande.

2. They explained that they had sent a petition to the Queen about the case and had come to ask whether there was news. In fact I see that H.M.C. (Mr. Pethybridge) had decided that the time was not ripe to forward a petition and had told them so at the time: no further action is therefore required. Mr. Maud and I gave the visitors the customary reply that confidential discussions were still in progress with the Cuban government.

3. This is the third or fourth of a new wave of Cay Sal visitors: there are minutes about each visit.

B. Hitch
(B. Hitch)
March 14, 1964

*H. M. C. GPF 16/3
eo 3*

Minutes

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Mr. Read
H. G. & A. Pal 12/3
Enter and x

Ward

(1081/64)

Embajada Británica

Habana.

Marzo 9, 1964.

Muchas gracias por su atenta visita del 5 de los corrientes.

He investigado detenidamente el asunto sobre el cual me habló y he sabido que si su hermano fuié una de las personas involucradas en el incidente que supuestamente tuvo lugar en o alrededor del 21 de Febrero de 1963 en el Cayo Elbow de las Islas Bahamas, el Secretario de Estado de las Colonias hizo las siguientes declaraciones en relación con este incidente:

"Un grupo de miembros de la policía Bahameña y una unidad de la Armada Real, inspeccionaron las islas en las cuales se supone se produjo la abducción, no encontrando allí prueba alguna para confirmar el alegato, y no se ha suministrado ni una otra evidencia convincente que pudiese servir como base para una acción por parte del Gobierno de Su Majestad."

Como observará por lo que antecede, no existen bases para que esta Embajada actúe en ningún sentido y, por lo tanto, lamento tener que comunicarle que no es posible hacer ninguna otra gestión sobre el particular.

B. Hitch
Primer Secretario

Srta. Miriam Oviedo Alvarez
Bacuranao Real s/n,
Habana.

TRANSLATION OF LETTER SENT IN SPANISH

BRITISH EMBASSY,
HAVANA.

March 9, 1964.

(1081/64)

Thank you for calling on March 5.

I have now had time to investigate the matter about which you spoke to me, and I find that, if your brother was one of the men concerned in the incident which allegedly took place on or about 21st February 1963 at Elbow Key in the Bahamas Islands, the Secretary of State for the Colonies has made a statement about this incident which I quote below:

"A Bahamas police party and a unit of the Royal Navy investigated the islands from which the abduction is alleged to have taken place. They found no evidence in support of the allegation; and no other convincing evidence has been furnished which could form a basis for action by Her Majesty's Government"

You will see from the above that there is no basis for action by this Embassy, and I therefore regret that I am unable to help you further.

B. Hitch
First Secretary

Srta. Miriam Oviedo Alvarez,
Bacuranao Real a/n,
Habana.

letter rejected by P.O. as
address unknown ; but the
lady called to accept it
today J.M.
12/3

CONFIDENTIAL

BRITISH EMBASSY,

HAVANA.

March 6, 1964.

(1081/64)

The Elbow Key case which greatly exercised us last year received a new lease of life today when two sisters of one of the eight men involved called at the Embassy.

2. I enclose a copy of my reply to one of them, which is based on the written answer at column 202 of Hansard for March 14, 1963, as mentioned in Foreign Office telegram to Washington No. 2841 of March 21, 1963.

3. As this issue is otherwise quite dead here, I am not copying this letter elsewhere. I believe the enquirer to have been prompted by a supposition that her brother's case was comparable with the Anguilla Key case last August, but I have not of course drawn attention to the possible parallel in my reply.

(B. Hitch)

J. M. Brown, Esq.,
American Department,
Foreign Office,
London S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Confidential

Minutes

1081/64

over Aug.

B. Aird

The above is unclassified.

2. This is at least evidence that one at least of the 8 has not been executed.
3. We have wished our hands off this for lack of evidence, and we shall not

Confidential.

F&R

Minutes

get involved again now. I do not
think we need F.O. authority to
reply on the lines I have drafted.

W.M.
5/3

Mr. Marks
H.H.C. d'A. Both seen letters
below X 7/3

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Telex

WESTERN UNION

Telex



COMPANIA QUE TIENE OFICINAS EN TODAS LAS CIUDADES Y PUEBLOS DE ESTADOS UNIDOS

SKC73 LHV175 FCW7 KKHN S LONDON LH 28/27 4 1251 CBGS

ETATPRIORITE PRODROME HABANA

1081

14604 ADDRESS TO HAVANA TELNO 146 4/3 REPEATED
FOR INFORMATION HAVING TO WASHINGTON YOUR LETTER
1081/64 OF FEBRUARY 26 TO SLATER I AGREE

SOSFA

Reference at flag 'A'

Preliminary conservation
with Dr Correa was sufficient
action for the time being

Yes Ans HE

Prelim 4/3

Minutes

CAY SAL PRISONERS

Although we are having many visits from relatives of these prisoners, especially of those who are still detained in Cabafia Prison, I feel each interview should be recorded. Mrs. Maria Antonia Rodriguez Castillo, wife of Israel Rojas Delgado called this morning. Her domicile is Calle 10, No. 1713, Caibarién, Las Villas, but she is at present staying in Havana at Concepcion 58, apto 4 altos, Vibora.

2. She informed me that her husband's trial began on February 17 but was suspended after 1½ hours. She confirmed Mrs. Cabera's story that no reference was made to British territory in the accusations. No new date had been fixed for the resumption of the trial.

3. Her version of the story was that her husband had left Cuba for Miami on August 19, 1962 and he had gone to Cay Anguilla only to pick her up. He did not, in August last year, come as far as Cuba, but had met his wife at Cay Anguilla. He was a mechanic by trade.

4. I spoke to Mrs. Rodriguez on the usual lines. She has promised to let me know developments.

5. Two incidental points which emerged were that she thought some of the 19 were sufficiently rehabilitated now not to wish to leave even if given the opportunity, and that the local foreign correspondents were, as far as she and her friends could judge, were taking no interest in the case.

6. This talk will with HMC's minute
(F.M. 17 at 7:15)

B. Hitch
March 2, 1964.

Regr: pp, pl

Hitch
H.R.

I spoke to Dr. Corona yesterday about the Cay Sal prisoners among other things. I took the line: in /my..

Minutes

my letter of February 26, now authorised by F.O. telegram 146. Dr. Corona said this was a difficult problem.

The Prime Minister had told me that these people, or at any rate most of them, would be let out of gaol. But he had not, surely, promised me that they would leave Cuba. Moreover there were difficulties about letting these people go out on the charter service and jump the long queue of Cubans who wished to leave the country by more regular means and often had to wait for months.

I said that Dr. Castro had clearly understood my point that we wanted all these people to go back to the Bahamas. ~~and had~~ said that he hoped to arrange this. He did not commit himself irrevocably but gave me the impression that it would be done. These people were in no way to be compared to Cuban citizens who wished to emigrate. They were people who were taken from the Bahamas by the armed forces of the Cuban Government in circumstances which we all knew. In order to avoid any misunderstanding I was quite willing to have these people, or such of them as wished to go, turned over formally to me; I would then make arrangements to return them to the Bahamas under the authority and control of this Embassy. Dr. Corona agreed to look at the situation again but said that difficulties had arisen.

A.

(J.H.A.Watson)
March 4, 1964

*H of C PAI
10/3
Mr. Hitchcock 11/3
H.M. Counselor 17/3
NBF
80.3.64*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

CONFIDENTIAL

BRITISH EMBASSY,
HAVANA.

(1081/64)

March 3, 1964.

...

I enclose a photostat of a letter we have received from Miss I.J. Macfarlane in the Consulate-General at Philadelphia, together with a copy of the original enquiry she received from a British citizen, presumably resident in the Philadelphia Consular District, about the Cuban prisoners.

2. Although I imagine you would see no objection to our replying direct to the Consulate General, any information we give might well find its way to the press or Congress and cause embarrassment. I should, therefore, be grateful if you could instruct the Consulate-General how to reply.

3. I suggest that the short answer might be that to the best of our knowledge all these prisoners are still in Cuba, some of them having been released; that we have no knowledge of any of them being executed; but that Her Majesty's Government is still negotiating a solution to the problem with the Cuban government. Unless you think that it would involve us too deeply, you might wish to ask for the name of the prisoner in whose case the enquirer is taking a special interest: but as we have really no idea at present of what success we shall have in getting all the prisoners out of Cuba, the less said the better.

...

4. I also enclose a copy of the interim reply I have sent to Miss Macfarlane.

(B. Hitch)

I.J.M. Sutherland, Esq.,
British Embassy,
WASHINGTON.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

BRITISH EMBASSY,

PLAVERA.

(1.01.4)

February 29, 1964.

Thank you for your letter 3241 of February 6 addressed to Consular Section and enclosing a copy of an enquiry about the Bay of Sal prisoners.

2. We are anxious not to say too much about this at the moment, and in view of the danger of publicity all over the United States, I have sent a copy of your letter and its enclosure to Iain Lutherford in Washington, who will no doubt give you guidance on how to reply.

(B. Hitch)

Miss M.J. Macfarlane,
British Consulate General,
PHILADELPHIA 7, P.A.

CONFIDENTIAL

1081/64



(3241)
M.J.M.: G.M.

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL
12 South 12th Street
PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

February 6, 1964

CONFIDENTIAL
BY BAG

Dear Consular Section,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter addressed to H. M. Consul General from a British Subject resident in our Consular District, and would be grateful for any information or guidance you can furnish to enable us to reply.

Yours ever,

Mary Macfarlane

(Miss M. S. Macfarlane,

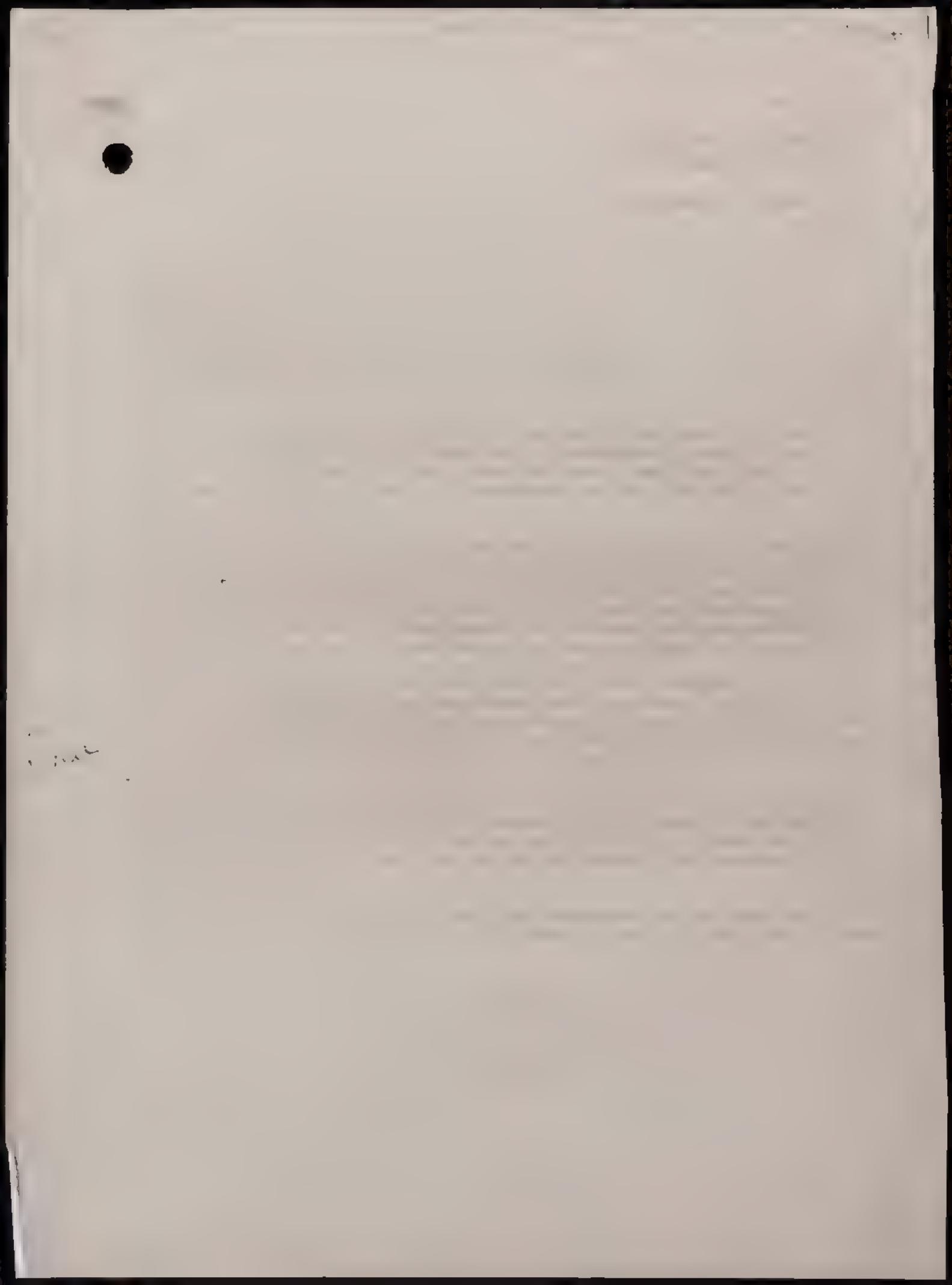
You may wish to reply

This should go ^{on} to
H. Argentina Reg
File in Chancery
It is difficult to
answer since we
don't know the name
of the friend J. Blawie
27/2

Consular Section,
British Embassy,
Havana, Cuba

CONFIDENTIAL

T. J. Williams, D.A.P.



BRITISH EMBASSY,

HAVANA.

February 26, 1964.

(1081/64)

"Would you please refer to recent correspondence about the Cay Sal prisoners resting with my tele, ra. No. 103. I am taking the opportunity of a non-confidential bag by British aircraft to take the matter one stage further.

"We have recently learned unofficially through the wife of the man concerned that the trial of at least one and perhaps all of the four prisoners who have not been released has started but has apparently been held up. According to our informant no mention was made of the accused having been taken away from British territory; it was alleged that he was captured in Cuban waters! The prosecution first asked for a 3 year sentence and subsequently for the death penalty since the offence was considered to be more serious.

3. There have recently been strong rumours that the trial was about to take place and we tend to believe the information given us. I therefore propose to return to the charge with the Cuban government on behalf of these four men on the grounds that we have always asked for the return of all 19 prisoners captured on Anguilla Cay. In this context, see the last operative paragraph of our Note of August 21, 1963 and paragraph 5 of our Note of October 4, 1963, which presumably intended to rebut the suggestion, contained in the opening paragraphs of the Cuban Note of September 16, that all the prisoners could legally be detained and tried in Cuba. Castro spoke of returning all the prisoners "perhaps gradually and discreetly". I have since made it clear (my telegram No. 896 of December 31) that we expect all the prisoners to be returned to British territory. On the other hand, we have never specifically repudiated the Cuban government's assertion of its right to treat the four men differently from the others and subject them to trial. Our aim must be the simple one of getting everyone out.

4. I should be grateful for a short telegram saying "I agree" if you do, or sending me alternative instructions if you do not.

5. I am sending a copy of this letter to Denis Greenhill in Washington.

(J. H. A. Watson)

R. N. K. Slater, Esq., C.M.G.,
American Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Cay Sal ^{Minutes} Persons

One of the Cay Anguilla
people who called today

? I think it was the wife of
Richard Lopez (abreva)

told Dr Fraser that

The trial started, but
has apparently been held
up No mention was
made & he accused
that he had been taken away from
trial reviewing. It was
noticed that he was captured
in Cuban waters.

The prosecution were
seeking a 30 years'
sentence but according
to one of the lawyers,
the offence is now considered
as more serious and the
death penalty is being
sought.

Praised Dr Fraser to
explain once again that

This Embassy cannot
intervene in individual
cases, and that cedar
as official body has
been requested on the
cultural issue.

If this report is
accurate, it seems to
me that action must
be taken. I do not
see why we cannot do
something to indicate
our attitude.

W.B. Foster
17/2.64

on 11/2
18/2

I am not quite sure that HMG's last paragraph is necessarily so. But the Cuban Govt. is doing nothing to keep us informed of any of the 19 people concerned. He should not blind ourselves to the serious fires and other repercussions of a trial resulting in one of these men being shot.

2. HMG and I have agreed, subject to your approval, that a member of Chg. shall see future visitors of this kind.
3. As we sent a tel yesterday about

possibly

Confidential
Minutes

persons and as these reports are
second or third hand, I do not think
that action is called for. If Mrs.
Lopez was not call again in, say,
10 days, we should probably invite
her to the Embassy and ask her how
the trial is getting on. If things
look black for her husband, it is for
consideration whether we should not
refer her to F.O. and seek further
instructions just how much fuss we should
make. Personally, I feel we should
make a WT: the general state of
Anglo-Cuban relations would stand it
now if ever.

Yours
J. A. M.
2

Very.

If only the 4th mentioned from
the beginning by the Cubans
as liable to trial on charges
of sedition are involved, I
do not think that we are
in very strong ground to make a fuss.
We have tacitly accepted the
right of the Cubans to try these
men and they have always been
inclined — again tacitly — for the
arrangements discussed by the others.
But I agree that we should try to

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Minutes

to find out what is going on
and that visitors of this
kind should be interviewed
by a member of clergy.

Pilat
1812

四

I think we can make it clear
that whatever trials etc we
take place we want all 19
people released^{was} and expect
the Cubans to manage this in
their own way

I made the point to
the chief of protocol again last
night: and he agreed to give
the matter a push. I am sure
we must keep nipping

W.M.
Mr. Foster
Mr. Mayall
John
W.B.

Nov 19 12

✓ Piled 24/2

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

TELEGRAM

Cypher [index](#) [sections](#)

From: [John](#)

To :—

Despatched 1730

Received

No.

6

(1081/64)

ROUTINE

TELEGRAM

xxxxxxxxxxxxxx en clair

From :— WASHINGTON To : HAVANA

Despatched

Received

No. 27

of

February 17, 1964

Addressed to Foreign Office, telegram No. 691 of February 17, repeated for information to the Governor of The Bahamas and Havana.

Your telegram No. 2,509.

No objection.

GREENHILL

M

CONFIDENTIAL

(1001/14)

TELEGRAM

CYPTIME

Cypher codeexxxxxxxudax

From :— FOREIGN OFFICE

To :— LIMA

Despatched

Received

No. 11

of

February 16, 1961

Addressed to Mr. Lester, Ambassador, No. 1009 of
February 11, repeated copy from Mr. to Mr. and
Government of the United States (Personnel).

Re: Telegram No. 517, January 3.

In accordance with your instructions, should
be forwarded to U.S. Embassy, Manila, Philippines
by 10 AM (U.S. Eastern Standard Time) on the date
of transmission. Please advise if you require
any further information or assistance. Thank
you for your cooperation and prompt attention to this
matter. Please accept my best regards and kind
consideration.

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes

Cay Sal Prisoners

I see from the telegram that things are still moving in the "CAY SAL" prisoners by Bahamas Airways affair. Although these could be carried by every flight, it would, of course, be preferable to send them on a day when our carrier is coming in, rather than the other way round. (For there is bound to be some delay at the airport and we would not want our carrier to miss his connection). The convenient dates are therefore:

February 27.

March. 12

March. 26.

April 9.

SPH
11/2

Mr. Hitchcock

Thank you: Mr. Hitchcock
have not got a plane yet.

DPA
11/2

The End 8/11/2
P.W. and X

PRIORITY

TELEGRAMCypher ~~codexxxxxxx~~

From :— FOREIGN OFFICE

To :— HAVANA

Despatched

Received

No. 103

of

February 12, 1964

Following received from Bahamas.

Addressed to Colonial Office, telegram No. 6 personal of February 11, repeated for information to Washington and Havana No. 17.

Your telegram No. 14 personal (repeating Havana to Foreign Office No. '5). Cay Sal prisoners.

With reference to paragraph 2 of Havana telegram of February 7 addressed to Foreign Office, telegram No. 85, I confirm if the prisoners are returned to the Bahamas they will not be tried or arrested and will be allowed to proceed to the United States.

2. I assume none would wish to remain in the Bahamas and that they would be admitted to the United States.

COSFA

Jan 12!

CONFIDENTIAL and PERSONAL

TELEGRAM

Cypher XCODE 771 EXCEP 1000

ROUTINE

From:— LAYAWA

To:— FOREIGN OFFICE

Despatched 1130

Received

No. 85 of February 6, 1964.

repeated for information to Washington (24) and
Personal to Governor of Rhodesia (1).

Your telegram no 47 [of January 21] (not to
all addressees).

Civil prisoners.

Without the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
telling me that he sees no objection to our taking the 15
former prisoners now at liberty out on the diplomatic
charter aircraft to London, Secy Officer told First
Secretary today that this advice had not been reached
and that the matter was still under consideration.
On the assumption that this arrangement will eventually
materialise, there are a number of questions to which
I would like an answer before I get in touch with
the liberated prisoners.

2. In the first place, I do not know how many
will want to go in the face of the African Government's
effort to re-establish themselves. It would take us look
rather closely if none or very few were prepared to
return to the Congo. Their individual decisions
will be affected by what is likely to happen to them
when they return. I would I can say that
they will not be tried or arrested in the Rhodesia,
but will be allowed to go to the United States if that
is what the Governor please confirm urgently that
such an assurance is in order?

3. A further point is that some of these prisoners
may not have valid Cuban passports. I hope that in
such circumstances it would be possible to arrange
their onward passage to the United States. We have
asked so firmly for these prisoners to be allowed to
/return to

CONFIDENTIAL

return to the Bahamas that it would be difficult to refuse to take them because they do not have valid Cuban exports. There is also the question of recovering costs. Then it's now how many prisoners wish to go, could Her Majesty's Ambassador approach the organisations concerned and obtain an estimate of the amount both of the dollars held back for the charter flight money transferred to London and the cost of aircraft maintenance to the United States? Should Her Majesty's Ambassador approach the United States authorities, and if so, what representations will be made into this? Should Her Majesty want to go alone?

1. It would be in order to apply publicly that this operation will be carried out to help the Cuban people and will be aimed at helping them to overthrow their present government. Any approach not to the various organizations in the United States would certainly result in a break.

W.B.C.H.

CONFIDENTIAL

Cay Sal (i.e. Anguilla Cay) Prisoners

I called on Dr. Oscar Oramas, Head of the Northern European section of the Western European Department of the M.F.A. this morning.

2. I began by stating my understanding of the arrangement made between H.E. and the Vice Minister Arnol Rodriguez Camps last week that the diplomatic charter service could be used to take to the Bahamas all or any of the Anguilla Gay prisoners now at liberty, while we reserved our position on the 5 still in prison. I expressed the hope that this part of the settlement could now be brought from the political to the administrative plane.

3. Dr. Oramas could not agree even in principle that such an arrangement had been made firm between the Ambassador and the Vice Minister, and confined himself throughout, charmingly and apologetically, to saying that he was authorised only to tell me that the entire matter was still being studied and that he would call on me as soon as he had any news. I expressed disappointment and said I hoped that this aspect of the affair could be settled quickly. February 24 had been mentioned as a possible date, but this was probably too soon and in any case owing to the new timetable we had no plane then. We hoped that the Cubans would agree that all those wishing to leave should be asked to go on one flight and I pointed out the publicity disadvantages to the Cubans in having the press interview these people one by one over a long period. Dr. Oramas agreed.

4. My visit was followed half-an-hour later by an invitation to lunch tomorrow.

5. In the light of the above, I have re-cast H.E.'s draft telegram.

B. Hitch
February 6, 1964

H. of C. Patch
H. E. D. P. 22-2
H. E. o.p. a.a.
Anz

CONFIDENTIAL

(1001/64)

TELEGRAM

ROUTINE

Cypher code ~~oxkhaix~~

From :— FOREIGN OFFICE To :— ~~U.S.A.~~
Despatched Received

No. 43 of January 21, 1964

Your letter 1001/64, of January 11, to Sir.

We do not think that there is any case for the cost of removing the prisoners from Cuba falling on us. If we can obtain the agreement of the Cuban authorities to the prisoners being sent to the U.N. or chartered service we would then ask U.N. Embassy to arrange for fees to be collected from relatives or refugee organizations. Prisoners will leave their own way from Nassau.

OCCFA

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(1061/64)

TELEGRAM

PRIORITY

Cypher code enclosure

*Pub
23/1*

From:— HAVANA

To:— FOREIGN OFFICE

Despatched 1030

Received

No. 39 of January 16, 1964

Referred for information to Washington (12) and referring to Governor of Bahamas (Personal) (1)

Washington telegram No. 177 to you.

CAY S.M.

Details re in my telegram No. 1 referring repeated to Washington by air freight bag which left here on January 13.

2. I agree that relatives in U.S. should learn the position. But Cuban government are sensitive on this issue. Ashman is known to them. He has been unhelpful to us in the past. I hope it will not be necessary for us to be seen as helping to build him up.

3. I believe chances of getting Cuban government to accede to U.N.G.'s demand that they should send these people out of Cuba (which is desirable for political as well as humanitarian reasons) will be better if H.M. Embassy London can give names to the press without attribution to British sources; or else to State Department for release in a similar way. Such a statement could say that five released are still alive and in prison.

Foreign Office please pass to Governor of Bahamas Personal copy of telegram No. 1.

ATSON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

W546088 DD.D146 120M (in 3 sorts) 7/61 LP2308

RESTRICTED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
HAVANA.

(1081/64)

January 11, 1964.

Your telegram no. 3 of January 2 about the Cay Sal prisoners says that I can make arrangements for these prisoners to leave Cuba, provided there is no expense to Her Majesty's Government.

2. As you will see from my Saving telegram no. 1 of yesterday's date, all but 5 of the prisoners are out of gaol. It is difficult for me to deal on this subject with anyone but Castro himself; but I gather from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs that all the prisoners who are released are likely to be allowed to leave for Nassau. The only practical means of arranging this is to put them, when the time comes, on our diplomatic charter service, by special arrangement with the Cuban government as being not ordinary passengers but persons travelling by decision of the two governments. I now feel fairly sure that the Cuban government will not in fact agree to paying the charter group \$50.00 a head. We can hardly refuse to get these people out of Cuba on the ground that we are not prepared to take them on a flight which is going anyway, on which there is space, unless the Cuban government ante up. We have insisted that fares on this flight must be paid in hard currency, and the released prisoners will not have the necessary funds themselves. Unless you think that it would be possible to ask some refugee Cuban organization or other charity to pay the passages (which is surely a little beneath the dignity of Her Majesty's Government?) I think we may have to absorb the net cost of paying for these people on the charter service.

3. Our understanding with other Embassies is that there will be a charge of \$50.00 to each Embassy which sends a passenger in either direction. But of course the residual cost to Her Majesty's Government of the service is reduced if more payload is carried. It is not possible at this stage to say exactly what saving there will be.

4. I should be grateful to learn by telegram whether I am authorised to take these people out on our charter service at our expense if that seems the only practical way of getting them out of Cuba. You can naturally count on us to do what we can to avoid incurring this charge.

(J.H.A. Watson)

R.M.K. Slater, Esq., C.M.G.,
American Department,
FOREIGN OFFICE S.W.1.

RESTRICTED

(1081/64)

SAVING TELEGRAM

CABLEGRAM en clair

From :— HAVANA

To :— FOREIGN OFFICE

Despatched BY BAG

Received

No. 1 of January 10, 1964

repeated for information SAVING to Washington (2), Governor Bahamas (1) and Commander British Forces Caribbean Area (2).

CAY SAL:

Castro told me briefly at a New Year Reception that he was considering my latest representation (reported in my telegram no. 896 of December 31). I have noted the instructions in your telegram no. 3. I will discuss the subject with the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs early next week.

2. I now learn that 11 adults were released on Christmas Eve with 3 infant children. Their names are:

Yolanda Rodrigues Barreras
Edelmira Madera Monteagudo
✓ Rene Rodriguez Esquia +
Maria Antonia Rodriguez Castillo
Miriam Olga Miranda Prieto (plus one child)
Alberto Aleman Bocareyo
Jose Augusto Hernandez Arena
✓ Jose Antonio Servia Flores
Marciso Salicrup Izaguirre
- Maria Alonso Sambrena ZAMORANA
Haydee Ramos Fleitas (plus two children)

3. Released prisoners are allowed to communicate with their relatives in the United States, and at least one has done so. I therefore agree that we should not become involved as intermediaries between these people and their relatives outside Cuba.

/4. The ...

4. The Cuban authorities are encouraging the released prisoners to settle down in Cuba and have given them unusual help with matters like employment and ration cards. But my information is that most if not all of them will leave Cuba if they can.

5. The names of the prisoners still held are:

Israel Rojas Delgado
Osmani Nodas González
Francisco Beníto Monzón + ~~BEREITO~~
- Gregorio Hernandez Fernandez + (twice a month)
- Ricardo Lopez Cabrera +

The released prisoners report that those still detained can receive visitors twice a month; and that the public prosecutor has asked for the death penalty in the case of Ricardo Lopez Cabrera.

names)
Hn. Minutis

{ Sept 15

WATSON

Minutes

אַתָּה־בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל

1. The first five days have been
spent in getting and preparing material
for the first part of the work.

Barreras

~~Two~~ two

Received Dec. 21, 1957.
" " "

11 units
21 hours

The 19th n. of the "T-twin" against
the 19th p. 22, 1930, is still
undivided.

Sra Rodriguez asked me to thank you
for what has been done so far to obtain
the release of the

卷之三

January 30, 1954.

Dodder Fonseca

ANGUILLA CAY

Sp. Maric. SUTCRUP, the first examination was not into the mouth, called at 8 p.m. on Feb. 1.

It was unable to give all the names of all the men who have been released, but mentioned the following:

This is the
new book.
It is
called

Rene Esqui erd his wife
Vivio R. Alconic
Alberto Alconic
J. C. Attoji Garviat

With Mr. Sabine himself, this
meeting was held.

52. 372 11-1887-2-23. 11

10. *Leucostoma* *luteum* (L.) Pers. *Lamprospilus* *luteus* L.

16. *U. S. Fish Commission*, *Report*, 1874, p. 10.

10. *Leucostoma* *luteum* (L.) Pers. *Lamprospilus* *luteus* L.

XX-1971

2000-01-01 00:00:00

Diluted Forest

100-201

0 | V

see also
minute below
about Sr Cabral

37775 (1372) A.O.SL

Y.E.

P.G. may feel that, unless something comes into today's bag, we must ask for better instructions from FO than those contained in FO Tel No. 3 of Jan. 2 (below).
Can we the matter now be officially linked with the Highlands deal?

Dairy
9/1

AC again

Minutes

Until XX-MAY-1944 REVERB OFFICER
early in May Name, REVERB (REVERB
still existing). V. C. G. S.

Eldred Forester

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

1081/64

Minutes

Narciso GALTORUF IZAGUIRRE
26 Cortes
Viare
Havana.

4-3513

Sauvage -

most of

17. *Leucosia* sp. (Diptera: Syrphidae) was collected from the same area as the *Chrysanthemum* sp. plants.

1782-1783

22. G. I. 21. 7. - 1. t
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

Minutes

D. Edred Forrester

30.12.63

... information was
useful in my construction of
the RFA yesterday.

Now see my Tel. L.T.B.

Ths

2/12

D. H. D. B.
6/12

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

CITY S.I.L.

This is a complex problem
I should like you to discuss
with the Mayor for foreign
Adams, to see whether they will
send out a statement, the 11 men
have been released, and also to try
to find out more about the
case.

Please do not mind being kept
busy with the information
you will find in this that we
accept of financial responsibility
for these prisoners, or on the

Minutes.

It was voted that we have no
right or reason to speak
for or against the sent back
(The Preliminary meeting left
doubtless about Mr. Brewster
case, but have every right to
let them send back and are
in fact asking for this. There
is no longer need what we say to
justify it may yet be done to
Carson (just as it would now
be).

Draft telegram L.T.C.

As
61

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes

ANGUILLA CAY

Tejadillo B
La Habana
Frankal
Ayuntamiento

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Sr. René Rodriguez Esqui, one of the men who were released on December 24, 1963, called to-day to ask

(a) what The British authorities were proposing to do about those who have been released

(b) what we could do about the five who are still held, and who have been sentenced to death.

The five are:

✓ Israel Rojas Delgado
✓ Osmaní Nodas González
✓ Francisco Bereijo Monzón
✓ Gregorio Hernández Fernández
✓ Ricardo López Cabrera.

2. I told Sr. Rodriguez that This Embassy has no jurisdiction, and indeed no reason, to intervene with the Cuban authorities about those who have been set free. My personal advice to them was to return to their normal lives and do nothing to attract attention to themselves.

3. In so far as the five remaining prisoners are concerned, I doubted whether anything more could be done than had been done already when our Note was sent about the whole group. We certainly could not intervene in individual cases. Sr. Rodriguez and his colleagues seem to be under the impression that the suspension of the legal proceedings against them took place at the direct request of this Embassy, and that we might be prepared to stop the proceedings in the other cases also (there are two separate lawsuits, one against Lopez Cabrera, and the other against the first four in the above list).

4. Sr. Rodriguez used the word "reclamar", but I pointed out that there could be no question of this. The most that might be possible would be "rogar", but I could not say whether you would be in a position to take any further action, though I promised to let you know that this approach had been made on behalf of the unfortunate men who are still detained. So far as I knew, this Embassy had not yet received any official reply to the Note which was sent to the Cuban authorities, and had only learned of the releases from some of the individuals concerned.

H. M. A.

Nedder Fowley
January 6, 1964.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PRIORITY

TELEGRAM

(1081)

Cypher ~~radiogram~~

From :— HAVANA

To :— FOREIGN OFFICE

Despatched

Received

No. 896 of

December 31, 1963

Repeated Saving to: Washington (94), Governor of the Bahamas (43) and CEFCA (3).

My telegram No. 891.

Cay Sal.

In spite of Castro's message reported in my telegram under reference, 11 of the prisoners were released in Havana on December 24 and have been advised by the Cuban authorities to take up employment here. One of them called at H.M. Consulate to ask about proceeding to the Bahamas and was given a noncommittal reply.

2. Yesterday a Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs sent for me and said he had been instructed by the Prime Minister to tell me that 11 of these Cuban prisoners had been set free. The dossiers of the remainder were still under active study. He said the Prime Minister had acted in this way in order to improve Anglo Cuban relations and hoped to see me in the new year. I expressed satisfaction of the release from gaol of 11 of these men, but I said that HMG's request was that they should all be returned to British territory and that it seemed a pity that this decision had been taken without enabling me to give HMG's reply to what Castro had told me. Deputy Minister said he supposed the question of return to British territory was still open. He expressed appreciation of the measures recently taken by HMG to prevent attacks on Cuba from British territory.

3. If the Cuban government

- a) agree to send some or all of these prisoners to Nassau at Cuban expense by DC-3 of Diplomatic charter service;
- or b) allow them to leave Cuba by whatever means they can find;
should I make the necessary arrangements?

WATSON

WT.46068 Dd.D146 190M (in 3 sorts) 7/61 LP2403

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Number:

Incident at Anguilla Cay, Cay Sal, Bahamas: kidnapping of Cuban refugees by Cuban government. January 1-December 31, 1964. TS Refugee Records from the Foreign Office, 1947-1970 FO 277/269. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom).